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The Honorable Harry F. Byrd
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Senator Byrd:

I want to write this personal note to you regarding the resignation from CIA of [redacted] who I understand is the [redacted] It is a source of great personal regret to me that we could not in good conscience recommend her retention as an employee here.

As you know, the work of this Agency entails a great deal of strain and tension. As a result, we have found that it is best not to employ a person who is of extremely high-strung make-up or subject to nervous tensions, for our experience indicates that such an employee is subject to severe emotional strain and possible nervous breakdown. On the basis of their appraisal of [redacted] case, our medical staff advised that in their opinion [redacted] was sufficiently high-strung as to envisage the possibility that her health might be impaired by the strains under which she would have to work in this Agency. The medical staff, therefore, recommended that [redacted] resign, and she has done so.

I wish to stress that our judgment, in this and similar cases, is based on the probability of serious impairment of the employee's health. The Agency's experience in such cases has been such as to lead us to the conclusion that it is very much to the individual employee's benefit if we face up to this fact before a breakdown occurs or their health is impaired.

As I stated above, we deeply regret that this has occurred in [redacted] but I wanted to tell you personally why we found it necessary to suggest that [redacted] resign. We always

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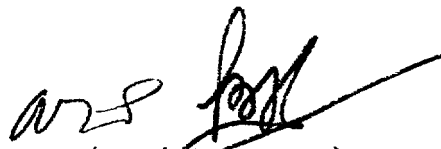
reach such a decision reluctantly, but I am sure you will understand the reasoning which lies behind it. If there is any additional information which you desire, I would be glad to discuss this case with you personally any time at your convenience.

With kindest regards.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles
Director


OGC:WLP/blc (19 Nov. 54)
Orig. & 1 - Addressee
3 - Signer
2 - Legislative Counsel
1 - DD/Admin.

Concur:



Deputy Director/Administration

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